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オーストラリアセミナー

Experiencing Research Presentation in English at the Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne, Australia 2017

Eid-UI Hasan (Research Fellow, Institute for Advanced Social Research)

Established in April 2008, the Institute for Advanced Social Research at the Kwansei Gakuin University aims to carry out advanced social research for the creation of a society that values cultural diversity. The institute is also committed to train young researchers and foster global graduates, and offers an array of dynamic programs of academic events and cultural exchanges. One of such programs is the overseas dispatch of graduate students to present their research in English. This outbound mobility program is a part of the Graduate Student Support Program (GSSP) and is supported by the Graduate School of Sociology in conjunction with the course “Advanced Social Studies/Research E”.

In the past few years, graduate students from Kwansei Gakuin University were sent to seminars at the Australia National University. However, at the end of fiscal year 2016, it became difficult to continue this dispatch program due to the change of person in charge, as well as circumstances of the Australia National University. Therefore, we had to look for a new partner institution. Initially, two institutions were considered as possible options to fill the void. One of the options was the Hawke Research Institute at the University of South Australia, where the School of Sociology previously had contact. The other option was the Asia Institute at The University of Melbourne. At the April 10 meeting, the academic staff of the Graduate School of Sociology carefully reviewed the objective and research expertise of both institutions and considered the Asia Institute at The University of Melbourne a perfect match for the graduate students at the Kwansei Gakuin University.

Established in 1853, The University of Melbourne is one of the top ranked universities in the world, with “Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2017-2018” placing it as number 1 in Australia and number 32 in the world. The Asia Institute, on the other hand, is a School of the Faculty of Arts at The University of Melbourne and a key center for studies in Asian languages, cultures and societies. The Asia Institute offers academic program on ‘Japanese Studies’. The Asia Institute has collaborations and academic agreements with many institutions, hosts several annual conferences and also participates in a range of cultural

exchange programs.

Subsequently, negotiations with the Asia Institute were conducted, proposals of arranging a postgraduate conference as well as academic exchanges and collaboration agreement were proposed, and the Asia Institute welcomed the both. Finally, it was mutually decided that an academic conference called “Postgraduate Conference in Japanese Studies” would be held at the Asia Institute of The University of Melbourne on August 29-30, 2017, followed by campus, library and museum visit. Professor Akihiro Ogawa of the Asia Institute and I were convenors of this collaborative academic project.

For this, the Institute for Advanced Social Research called for participants from Kwansei Gakuin University, and the application deadline was May 31, 2017. Five students, four doctoral students and one master’s student conducting research related to Japan, were selected as the recipients of the “Graduate Student Support Program Grants for Australia Seminar 2017” of the Institute for Advanced Social Research, Kwansei Gakuin University to participate in this overseas dispatch program. Each participant was required, for the first time, to submit a 4000-5000 word conference paper in English. Prior to their departure to Australia, a rehearsal session in English was also carried out on Tuesday, July 25 at the seminar room of the Institute for Advanced Social Research. The rehearsal session gave the participants an opportunity to practice, find out the weakness and get feedback from their peers, as well as from the Research Fellows at the Institute for Advanced Social Research.

Finally on August 27, I led the five graduate students to participate in the “Postgraduate Conference in Japanese Studies” at the Asia Institute of The University of Melbourne, Australia. A total of 11 papers, six from The University of Melbourne and five from Kwansei Gakuin University, were presented in the two-day conference to an audience of academics, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as visiting researchers from The University of Melbourne. The presentations covered an array of research themes on Japan including play, death and bereavement ; social and public policy ; identity, representations and the media ; community resilience and development. Participants from Kwansei Gakuin University and the titles of their presentations are as follows (in alphabetical order) :

Ayumi Chihara (智原 あゆみ : D 3)

The rising presence of the word “shonin” in the 21 st century Japan

Fangming Yang (楊 芳溟 : M 2)

Social integration of Chinese married women in contemporary Japan : a social network

perspective

Kai Okuda (奥田 絵 : D 2)

Conservation of water resource areas and community revitalization : a case study of Kawakami Village in Nara Prefecture, Japan

Motoko Odani (小田二 元子 : D 3)

Representations of sexuality in Japanese lesbian bars

Ryosuke Fujii (藤井 亮佑 : D 1)

Dealing with the dead's possessions : a case study of "memento disposition" business in Japan

The "Postgraduate Conference in Japanese Studies" began on Tuesday, 29 August 2017 with opening remarks by Professor Vedi Hadiz, Deputy Director of the Asia Institute. Professor Hadiz welcomed the participants from Kwansei Gakuin University, wishing the conference would promote dialogue and debate among the graduate students and be fruitful for both institutions. During Session 1, the aims and the various initiatives of the Asia Institute were introduced by Professor Akihiro Ogawa. On behalf of the staff at the Institute for Advanced Social Research, I expressed our sincere gratitude to the Asia Institute for welcoming us to The University of Melbourne and briefly explained the aims and objectives of our institution.

In Session 2, chaired by Dr. Ikuko Nakane, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne, the first paper from Kwansei Gakuin University was presented by Ryosuke Fujii (D 1). His presentation shed light on the issues of death and bereavement in contemporary Japanese society, especially the significance of and how we deal with the *ihin* (mementos) — the dead's possessions. In his paper, he explored why a new business, specializing in cleaning up and sorting out the belongings of the deceased called "memento disposition" (*ihinseirigyō*), has emerged in Japan. He explained the five categories of the mementos : the meaning or the value, keepsake, tool, commodity and ceremonial articles or waste, and claimed that these categorizations are significantly important as they give new meaning or value to the possessions of the deceased and help socialize them again.

In the post-lunch Session 3, chaired by Dr. Etsuko Toyoda, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne, the second paper from Kwansei Gakuin University was presented by Fangming Yang (M 2). By taking the perspective of social network, her presentation focused on the social integration of Chinese married women in present-day Japan. Her study claimed that the rapid growth of long-term stay or settlement of Chinese married women in Japan has also increased

the importance of their integration into Japanese society. In the process of their social integration, her study found ‘husband’ to be an important joint-point in forming their social network.

In the pre-lunch Session 4 on the second day, 30 August (Wednesday), two papers from Kwansei Gakuin University were presented by Motoko Odani and Ayumi Chihara respectively. In her study, Motoko Odani (D 3) explained how people in lesbian bars in Japan represent themselves based on their sexuality. She described that people in Japanese lesbian bars often use the term ‘*seku*’, which is an abbreviated word of sexuality and unique to their world, instead of ‘lesbian’ to express themselves. She also explained the two-way usage of this term in lesbian bars: as a symbolic categorization of representing their sexuality and as a function in establishing a relationship between them. On the other hand, Ayumi Chihara’s (D 3) presentation highlighted an important issue of *shonin* (recognition) in contemporary Japan. By analyzing magazine articles, her study revealed that the usage of the word *shonin* has a wider variety of social context than its original usage in western countries. She described how the word is often used in analyzing individual relations in social problems such as the increasing social isolation and the deteriorating work conditions for younger generation in today’s Japan.

In Session 5, chaired by Professor Akihiro Ogawa, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne, the final paper from Kwansei Gakuin University was presented by Kai Okuda (D 2). His paper explored how the conservation of water resource areas for community revitalization impacts the local environment as well as the relationship between the river and the local residents in the basin areas in Japan. In doing so, he looked at the case of Kawakami Village in Nara Prefecture. His study found that the establishment of a museum and ecotourism activities in Kawakami Village have increased the exchange opportunities of the locals, and hence the co-operation of preserving Yoshino-Kinokawa River basin as a whole.

In the closing remarks, Professor Yoshihiro Seki, School of Sociology, Kwansei Gakuin University, who joined the conference from Session 3, expressed his gratitude on behalf of the faculty, staff and students at the Kwansei Gakuin University and said that the conference was successful as it generated much discussion and insights. Professor Seki also hoped that the good relations between The University of Melbourne and Kwansei Gakuin University would continue in the future. Similarly, the Director of the Asia Institute, Professor Pookong Kee congratulated the participants to be a part of a successful program. Professor Kee also emphasized on the importance of Australia-Japan relationship and organizing collaborative academic programs.

The Asia Institute and the Institute for Advanced Social Research recognized that academic

exchanges and collaboration between the two institutions would be beneficial to all concerned, therefore affirmed their intention to encourage such exchanges and collaboration. As a result, an agreement entitled “*Academic Exchanges and Collaboration Agreement between Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne and Institute for Advanced Social Research, Kwansei Gakuin University*” was signed by the directors of the two institutions at the closing of the conference. Under this agreement, the two institutions agreed to encourage the following exchange activities based on their respective academic and educational needs :

- (1) Exchange of faculty members and scholars (professors, lecturers, or researchers)
- (2) Exchange of graduate students
- (3) Exchange of information, publications and materials for academic purposes
- (4) Organization of collaborative research activities and joint academic conferences
- (5) Other academic exchange activities as may be mutually agreed upon by the two institutions

The two-day conference was followed by university campus, library and museum visit. Participants from Kwansei Gakuin University first went to visit campus and library nearby of the Asia Institute. Then they went to the Melbourne Museum. These visits were designed in the program so that the participants could experience and value the diversity and multiculturalism in a society.

We strongly believe that the “Postgraduate Conference in Japanese Studies” held at the Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne, Australia in 2017 was a great success as the conference provided a great opportunity for the participants to present and share their research findings in English, exchange their ideas, and get valuable feedback from experts in Japanese Studies. This was also the first time that the Institute for Advanced Social Research provided support for graduate students and led them to experience research presentation in English at an institution where an ‘academic exchanges and collaboration agreement’ was signed officially. We are deeply indebted to all the members of the Asia Institute for their kind hospitality and continued support. We look forward to working with you in 2018.

Below is the outline of the program.

POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE IN JAPANESE STUDIES 2017

Co-Sponsor : Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne and Institute for Advanced Social Research, Kwansei Gakuin University

Cooperation : Graduate School of Sociology, Kwansei Gakuin University

Co-Convenor : Professor Akihiro Ogawa (Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne) and Dr. Eid-UI Hasan (Institute for Advanced Social Research, Kwansei Gakuin University)

Date : Tuesday, 29—Thursday, 31 August 2017

Venue : Room 321, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne

PROGRAM

DAY 1 : TUESDAY, 29 AUGUST 2017

| Time | Details |
|-----------------|---|
| 10 : 00-10 : 30 | Morning Tea Opening Remarks : Professor Vedi Hadiz (Deputy Director, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne) |
| 10 : 30-11 : 00 | Session 1 Introductory Comments : Professor Akihiro Ogawa (Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne) & Dr. Eid-UI Hasan (Institute for Advanced Social Research, Kwansei Gakuin University) |
| 11 : 00-12 : 00 | Session 2 Theme : Emerging Issues in Play, Death and Bereavement Chair : Dr. Ikuko Nakane (Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne) Presentation 1 (11 : 00-11 : 30) : <i>Playing with Convention : Parkour and the Asia-Pacific</i> Asha Ross PhD student, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne Presentation 2 (11 : 30-12 : 00) : <i>Dealing with the dead's possessions : a case study of "memento disposition" business in Japan</i> Ryosuke Fujii PhD student, Graduate School of Sociology, Kwansei Gakuin University |
| 12 : 00-13 : 30 | Lunch Break |
| 13 : 30-15 : 00 | Session 3 Theme : Social and Public Policy Chair : Dr. Etsuko Toyoda (Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne) Presentation 3 (13 : 30-14 : 00) : <i>Article 9 and the Japanese Cabinet Legislation Bureau</i> Adam Eldridge PhD student, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne |

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| | <p>Presentation 4 (14 : 00-14 : 30) :</p> <p><i>Social integration of Chinese married women in contemporary Japan : a social network perspective</i></p> <p>Fangming Yang</p> <p>Master's student, Graduate School of Sociology, Kwansei Gakuin University</p> <p>Presentation 5 (14 : 30-15 : 00) :</p> <p><i>Public sector reform and national culture : exploring agency reform in Japan</i></p> <p>Shuntaro Iizuka</p> <p>PhD candidate, SSPS, The University of Melbourne</p> |
| 15 : 00-16 : 30 | Afternoon Tea & Open Discussions |
| | Conference Dinner |

DAY 2 : WEDNESDAY, 30 AUGUST 2017

| Time | Details |
|------------------------|--|
| 10 : 00-10 : 30 | Morning Tea |
| 10 : 30-12 : 00 | <p>Session 4</p> <p>Theme : Identity, Representations and the Media</p> <p>Chair : Dr. Eid-UI Hasan (Institute for Advanced Social Research, Kwansei Gakuin University)</p> <p>Presentation 6 (10 : 30-11 : 00) :</p> <p><i>Representations of sexuality in Japanese lesbian bars</i></p> <p>Motoko Odani</p> <p>PhD student, Graduate School of Sociology, Kwansei Gakuin University</p> <p>Presentation 7 (11 : 00-11 : 30) :</p> <p><i>Intimate publics and social media during the 3.11 disaster</i></p> <p>Sonja Petrovic</p> <p>PhD candidate, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne</p> <p>Presentation 8 (11 : 30-12 : 00) :</p> <p><i>The rising presence of the word "shonin" in the 21st century Japan</i></p> <p>Ayumi Chihara</p> <p>PhD student, Graduate School of Sociology, Kwansei Gakuin University</p> |
| 12 : 00-14 : 00 | Lunch Break |
| 14 : 00-15 : 30 | <p>Session 5</p> <p>Theme : Community Resilience and Development</p> <p>Chair : Professor Akihiro Ogawa (Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne)</p> |

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| | <p>Presentation 9 (14 : 00-14 : 30) :</p> <p><i>Sustaining and nurturing from the ground up : a case study of community-led 保養 (hoyō) recuperation practice in Cairns, Australia</i></p> <p>Akina Mikami PhD candidate, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne</p> <p>Presentation 10 (14 : 30-15 : 00) :</p> <p><i>Conservation of water resource areas and community revitalization : a case study of Kawakami Village in Nara Prefecture, Japan</i></p> <p>Kai Okuda PhD student, Graduate School of Sociology, Kwansei Gakuin University</p> <p>Presentation 11 (15 : 00-15 : 30) :</p> <p><i>How did they abandon Japanese community? A trail of migrants from 2011 radioactive contamination</i></p> <p>Ryota Wakamatsu MA student, Social Policy, The University of Melbourne</p> |
| 15 : 30-16 : 30 | Afternoon Tea & Open Discussions |
| 16 : 30- | <p>Closing Remarks :</p> <p>Professor Yoshihiro Seki (School of Sociology, Kwansei Gakuin University) & Professor Pookong Kee (Director, Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne)</p> <p>Signing of Agreement :</p> <p><i>“Academic Exchanges and Collaboration Agreement between Asia Institute, The University of Melbourne and Institute for Advanced Social Research, Kwansei Gakuin University”</i></p> |

DAY 3 : THURSDAY, 31 AUGUST 2017

| Time | Details |
|-----------------|---|
| 10 : 30 | Library, Campus & Museum Visit |
| 13 : 30- | Field Trip |

2017 年度 メルボルン大学での研究会議を終えて

小田二 元子（関西学院大学大学院社会学研究科博士課程後期課程）

今回開催されたメルボルン大学での研究会議で私は “Representations of Sexuality in Japanese Lesbian Bars” というタイトルで報告を行った。報告では「レズビアン」という言葉が「女性」と「同性愛者」という概念によって説明され、また日本においては「百合」や「レズ」という単純化、ステレオタイプ化されたイメージが存在する一方で、日本のレズビアン・バーにおいて見られる複雑で多様なカテゴリーの使用に焦点を当てた。レズビアン・バーに集う人々はそのカテゴリーを“セク”と呼んでいる。報告では、“セク”がそれを用いる人々にとってどのような意味や役割を持っているのか、また実際に“セク”が用いられているレズビアン・バーという空間においてどのような機能を果たしているのかを明らかにした。

今回の研究会議では、各自が事前に英語でカンファレンスペーパーを提出し、当日の報告や質疑応答も英語で行われた。私にとって自身の研究について英語で 4000 words という分量の文章を書くのは初めての経験であった。私はカンファレンスペーパーを作成する際、日本語を英語に訳すという方法を採らずに、できるだけ英語で文章をつくるようこころがけた。そのため、はじめのうちはなかなか書きすすめられず時間がかかってしまった。それは英語での文章構成では文頭に結論を書く場合が多いことが挙げられるだろう。これまで日本語で何かを書くことに慣れていた私は、結論が不明確なまま書き進めていくことが多く、書き上げた後に全体の構成を考えることがほとんどだった。しかし、今回のカンファレンスペーパーでは、節や段落ごとの書き出しで常にその部分が全体のなかでどのように位置づけられるのかを説明しなければならなかった。これは日本語で書く場合にもあてはまることではあるが、今回の英語でのカンファレンスペーパーの作成を通じて、自身の研究の論旨や議論の展開を整理することができた。

また、今回のカンファレンスペーパー執筆の際、私は SV や SVO, SVC のようなシンプルな構造の文章で記述した。それは私が英語に不得手なことが理由であるが、それゆえ私は自身の研究についてそのようなシンプルな文章構造に置き換えて考えなければならなかった。このことが結果的に自身の研究についてより理解を深めるきっかけとなった。使い慣れない、不得手な言語で自分の研究を記述することに様々な困難があったが、不得手な言語であったからこそ、自分の研究の論旨や主張を明確にする良い機会となった。

英語でカンファレンスペーパーを作成する経験の他に、今回の研究会議では海外から見た日本社会について理解を深めることができた。今回のメルボルン大学で開かれた「Postgraduate Conference in Japanese Studies」では、メルボルン大学から 6 名、関西学院大学から 5 名がそれぞれ報告を行った。メルボルン大学の報告者の多くは “Japanese Studies” を専攻しており、報告も日本社会に関するものがほとんどであった。そして、今回の研究会議で印象的だったのはメルボルン大学からの報告者 6 名の内 3 名が、東日本大震災に関連する研究を行っていたということである。1 名は 3.11 の際の日本におけるソーシャルメディアの使われ方に注目し、震災以降、ソーシャルメディアによる人々のつながりのあり方を「絆」などの言葉などに注目して分析を行っていた。ま

た、別の報告者は、震災以降、被災地の子供たちが参加している「保養」プログラム（被災地の子供たちがオーストラリアを含む諸外国を訪れ現地の人々に対し、自分たちの体験をプレゼンテーションやスピーチなどで発表する等の活動）を対象に、「保養」プログラムが担う役割について考察していた。もう一人の報告者は、震災後に日本から海外に移住を決めた人々を対象とし、彼ら・彼女らが移住先で経験している問題についての報告を行っていた。3名の報告者はそれぞれ、異なるフィールド、人々を対象としつつも、東日本大震災を日本社会を捉える重要な出来事として位置付けている点は共通している。今回の研究会議を通じて、海外から日本社会を見ると、東日本大震災が重要な位置を占めていることに気づかされた。

もう一点、今回の研究会議を通じて気付かされたことがある。今回の報告で私はレズビアン・バー（店によってはレディース・バーと呼ばれる）という場所で頻繁に使われている“セク（seku）”と呼ばれる独自の隠語について報告を行なった。ここで問題となったのは、レズビアン・バーに集う人々を「レズビアン」として位置付けることができるのかという点、そして、“セク”と呼ばれる特殊な造語が彼女たちのセクシュアリティであるといえるのかという点である。今回の報告で、私はレズビアン・バーに集う人々を「レズビアン」として位置づけなかった。そして、自身について“セク”を用いて語る人々について、その“セク”が流動的であること、可変的であることについて言及した。報告の後の質疑応答の際にメルボルン大学の学生から“Identity, . . . fluidity?”という発言があった。この発言が、私に“セク”がセクシュアリティという認識枠組みで理解可能なものなのか、“セク”はアイデンティティなのか、という問いを与えてくれた。今後、“セク”を用いた語りや相互行為の分析を行っていく際にはこのような論点をもちながら研究を進めていきたい。

他の報告でも「保養」「*hoyō*」、「絆」「*kizuna*」等、日本語の概念を用いた報告があった。「保養」は“*hoyō*”というように表現され、“*recuperation practice*”や“*retreat program*”と説明されていた。「保養」や「絆」といった言葉や概念は単純に英語に置き換えることができるのか。それぞれの報告者のフィールドや資料によってその言葉の意味付けを明らかにし、英語との意味づけや認識の違いについてより深い議論ができればより良かったのではないと思う。英語で報告をする際、日本語の概念や、実際に人々が用いている言語をそのまま用いるのか。それとも英語や英語の概念に置き換えるのか。今回の研究会議では日本語と英語という言語の差異により、ほとんどの報告者がそのような分岐、選択を経験したはずである。こうした差異について国際的な場で議論をしていくことがこれから研究を進めていく中で重要であると考えられる。